

## To sue or not to sue

Find out what our dean of law has to say about whiplash injuries and compensation.

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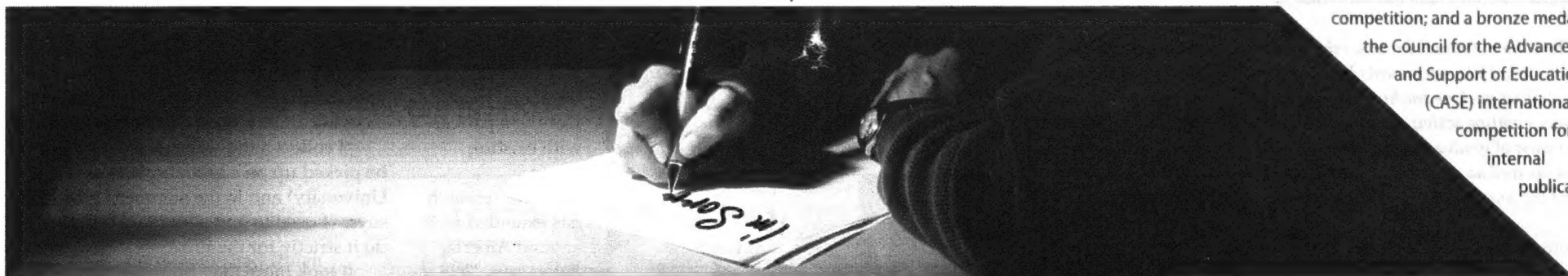
## The age of apology

They may be just words to some, but to others saying 'I'm sorry' in public is more than a hollow gesture. Why?

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## Award-winning newspaper

*Folio* has landed two major awards recently: a silver medal for Canada's best university newspaper in the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education's (CCAE) Prix d'Excellence competition; and a bronze medal in the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education's (CASE) international competition for internal publications.



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

# folio

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<http://www.ualberta.ca/folio>

# I-SITE keeps eye disease in check

## Ophthalmology's telehealth application helps remote northern community

By Phoebe Dey

For years, Linda Auger was having a hard time convincing diabetics on her reserve near Fort Vermilion, Alta., to see an ophthalmologist.

The community health worker with the Tallcree Band became increasingly concerned when many of the same people complained about blurred vision but still wouldn't make the 12-hour bus ride to Edmonton, the closest city where eye specialists are available.

Auger's mission was urgent.

Diabetes is three to five times more prevalent in Canadian aboriginal communities and that rate is now growing to epidemic levels. Complications from the disease can lead to diabetic retinopathy (damage to the retina's normal blood vessels because of high blood-glucose levels) which is the leading cause of adult blindness in North America.

But thanks to the U of A's Department of Ophthalmology, no one in the Tallcree Band has to leave the community to get his or her eyes examined.

The university chose the remote northern town as its test site for a new, unique telehealth application.

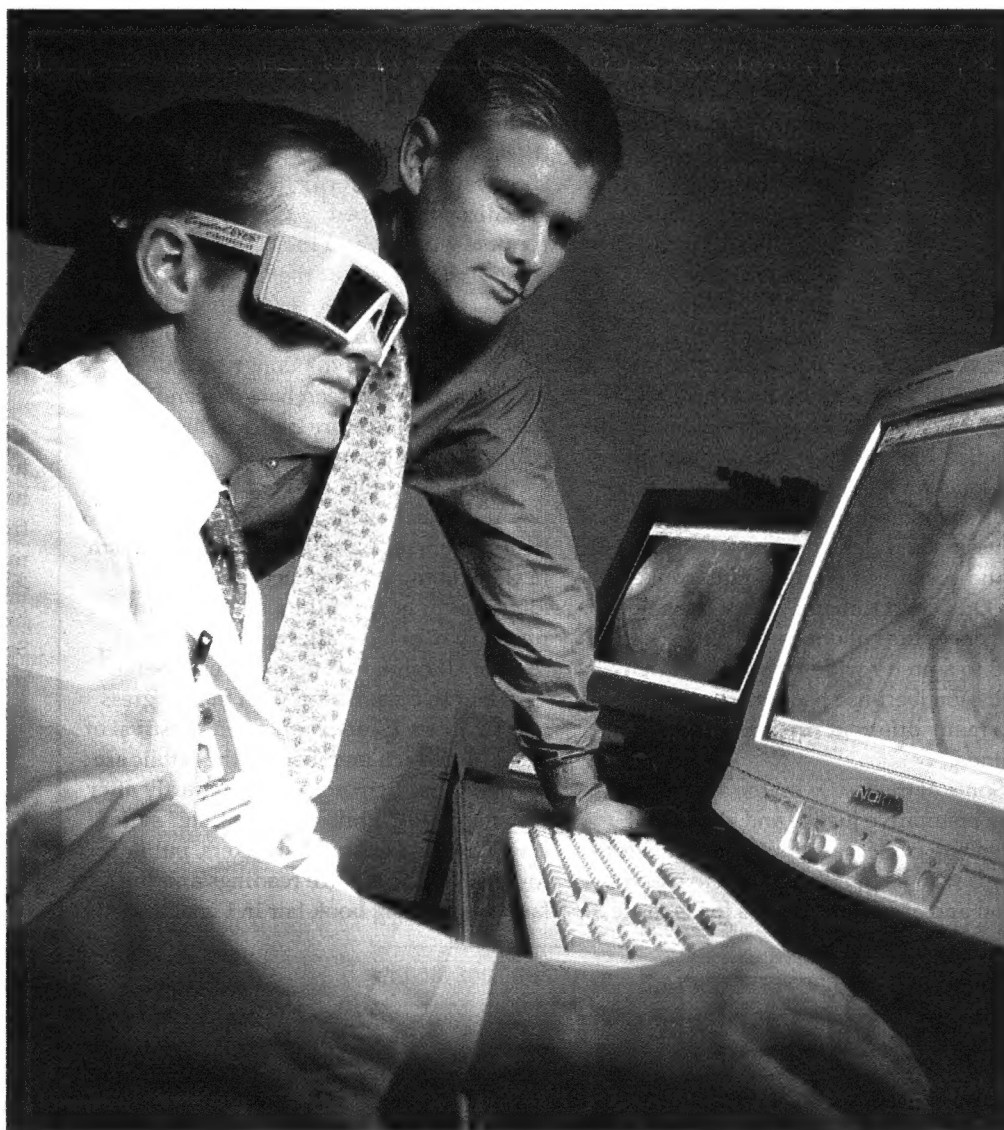
Using wireless technology, I-SITE (Intelligent Screening of Imagery via Teleophthamology) produces the same quality and reliability of diagnostic screening for eye disease in remote communities as that currently only available in major Canadian cities.

I-SITE uses satellites and advanced digital image-processing technologies, originally developed to explore images of the earth from space.

By using high-resolution digital cameras, images can be sent anywhere on earth for diagnosis using Internet or satellites.

"We're the only place in the world doing this, so it's exciting for us."

—Dr. Matt Tennant



Dr. Matt Tennant (right), seen here with Dr. Mark Greve, and the I-SITE team help keep eye disease in check without increased costs for people in remote communities most in need.

For this project, the images are downloaded to centres in Edmonton.

"We're the only place in the world doing this in the field of ophthalmology, so it's exciting for us," said Dr. Matt Tennant, who runs the U of A clinical research aspects of the program.

Doctors first visited the remote northern community in November 1999, then in January 2000. A third trial is planned for June.

The doctors invited 71 diabetics from surrounding communities to have their eyes screened and then sent the images to Edmonton for proper diagnoses. Thirteen were identified with diabetic retinopathy. Seven were in immediate need of laser surgery. Without this early detection, the patients needing laser surgery would have gone blind.

"At first many of my people didn't understand why they should allow

someone else to take pictures of their eyes," said Auger, who has had diabetes since 1980. She was given the okay by the I-SITE team.

"But when I told them why it was so important, they started going. One of the guys who needed laser surgery has thanked me many times for telling him to go because it stopped him from going blind."

Tennant said people with diabetes must take several preventative measures to maintain their eyesight.

"With diabetes, you need to have your eyes looked at once a year and only 19 per cent of these people had an appointment in the previous year," he said. "Then when you start having problems with your eyes, they should be checked every three months and that just wasn't happening. This is a great start."

Besides the long drive to Edmonton, cost is a factor for many band members, said Auger. A bus or plane ride, plus accommodation and food, can easily run into the hundreds of dollars.

"Here all we had to pay for was lunch and a cab fare," she said.

With the help of the U of A's ophthalmology department, it's a small price to pay for the gift of sight. ■

I-SITE is funded by the Canadian Space Agency, MacDonald Dettwiler, Precarn Associates and the U of A.

- Diabetes is one of the most widespread, debilitating and expensive diseases in North America, affecting six per cent of the population or 17 million people.
- It costs society more than \$97 billion per year.
- Diabetes has now reached epidemic levels in aboriginal communities.
- Twenty to 30 per cent of the aboriginal population has diabetes, which is about three to five times more prevalent than in the rest of the population.

»» quick »» facts



# Psychiatry professor remains a life-long mentor

**Killam Annual Professorship winner shares his research love across Canada and the world**

By David DiCenzo

The Killam Annual Professorships, established in July 1991, are awards based on scholarly activities such as teaching, research, publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students and courses taught, as well as service to the community beyond the university.

Giving lectures and publishing papers must take a toll on today's professors. But the same could not be said for the University of Alberta's Dr. Glen Baker in the Department of Psychiatry. Lecturer and publisher are only two of the mantles held by this winner of the Killam Annual Professorship.

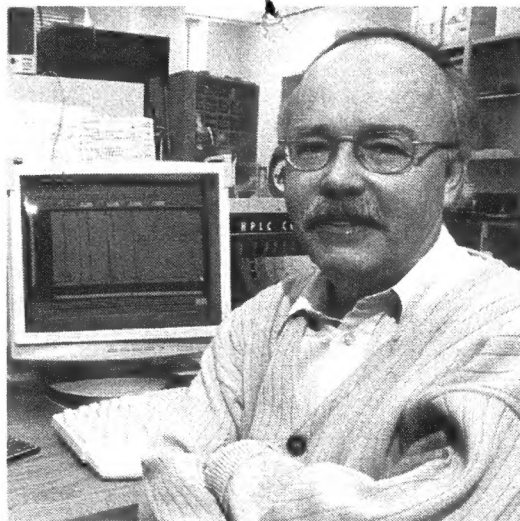
"He is a brilliant researcher who has won many awards and grants," says department colleague Dr. Kathryn Todd. "One of the most accurate manifestations of Glen's value is the number of students around the world who want to work with him."

Baker's global reputation is not surprising. Besides spending the past 23 years at the U of A and producing more than 200 peer-reviewed papers, the native of Watrous, Sask., is the co-founder of the

Neurochemical Research Unit on campus. The unit, which originated in 1979, is internationally known for research in neurochemistry, drug metabolism and biological psychiatry.

"We set it up as a joint unit between the Department of Psychiatry and the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences," says Baker. "The main focus was to study the etiology [causes] of psychiatric disorders and the mechanism of action and metabolism of drugs to treat the disorders."

The opportunity to work in an ever-changing field appeals greatly to the professor, as does the chance to collaborate with others across campus, Canada and the world. Because of these partnerships, the work can be examined right from the



Baker: working from bench to bedside in the U of A's Neurochemical Research Unit.

conception of a pharmaceutical to the actual treatment of a patient with existing drugs.

"Our research has extended well beyond Alberta," Baker says. "We do work with McGill, the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia, among others. Canada has a small scientific community so it's nice to be able to

share what you do. You get a chance to work from the lab bench to the bedside."

"He obviously loves research—99 per cent of us do," adds Todd. "But Glen never has a problem with it. Some people can get crabby about research. He's always happy, whether the results are good or bad because it redirects his focus."

There are times when work has to take a back seat to relaxation. It's not often, but

when Baker is away from the unit and his teaching, researching and writing, he immerses himself in collecting old books or enjoying an afternoon on the golf course.

"I collect antiquarian books (a hobby he picked up on a sabbatical at Cambridge University) and in the summer I golf," he says. "I used to golf a lot more but now I do it strictly for the fun."

It took more than his research capabilities to secure the Killam Professorship, which recognizes excellence in teaching as well. He has been taking on graduate students for 16 years, remains in contact with many of them, and considers their successes a rewarding achievement. As for the Killam Professorship, the recognition from his peers has been a tremendous honour.

"He is the true meaning of a mentor," says Todd. "He actually lives that role." ■

## folio

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## Justice and repair colloquium a Congress 2000 highlight

By Geoff McMaster

How effective is a movement such as South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Committee in healing past injustice? And when a country makes an effort to repair the damage done by abuses of power, just how much can be restored?

These are a couple of the questions academics in law and philosophy will debate at next month's Congress 2000, a major national conference sponsored by the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada. One of the highlights of the congress is a colloquium on justice and repair, May 27 and 28, co-sponsored by the Canadian Philosophical Association and the Canadian Association of Law Teachers.

"Repair and justice is a big topic of discussion and debate amongst legal scholars and social and political philosophers," says Dr. David Kahane, one of the co-organizers of the colloquium. "We look forward to a pretty wide-ranging and rich discussion, because people are coming out of so many different projects and backgrounds."

Some of the issues on the agenda include restorative justice and aboriginal sentencing circles, and public apologies to groups who have fallen victim to discrimination and abuse (See Folio's focus, page 3).

Among the scholars attending is keynote speaker Elizabeth Spelman from Smith College in Northampton, Mass., author of *Fruits of Sorrow: Re-framing our Attention to Suffering*. Dr. Fran Olson of the University of California Los Angeles will also discuss compensation to Japanese comfort women, and the U of A's Annalise Acorn will talk about the triads of love/healing/justice and love/healing/therapy.

The colloquium is among hundreds of sessions scheduled for Congress 2000 as more than 6,000 researchers descend upon the campus to explore topics in history, education, philosophy, law, literature, sociology and other areas of the humanities and social sciences. Experts will deliver papers on everything from Buddhism in Canada to the construction of rural identities to how traditional Ukrainian funerary rites have affected the spiritual lives of Ukrainian-Canadians in Alberta.

Held in conjunction with the congress will be a new local event called "Festival of Ideas" in which members of the public are invited to participate. Modeled partly after the successful "Philosophers' Café" series, it will include featured speakers, public forums, dance, theatre readings and the largest scholarly book fair in Canada. ■

## Web Watch

By Randy Pavelich

**Canadian Circumpolar Institute**  
<http://www.ualberta.ca/~ccinst/polar.html>

With Edmonton's seasonal climate and easy access to the polar region, having a polar research institute at the university is only logical and fitting. There is still relatively little known about Arctic ecosystems and human physiology under cold climatic conditions. The Circumpolar Institute is filling in those critical gaps in our knowledge. The Web site provides a clean, concise front end into their work.

**Alberta Research Council**  
<http://www.arc.ab.ca>

Every researcher should bookmark this site. It's a valuable source of information and research for an important agency so close in physical proximity and with such deep ties to the university. The ARC Web site is well organized and has fast access to key functions.

E-mail your favourite Web sites and suggestions to [randy.pavelich@ualberta.ca](mailto:randy.pavelich@ualberta.ca).



## In Memoriam

**Alexander Markle, 1919–2000**

By Rick Pilger

The University of Alberta lost a long-time friend and supporter when Alexander Gilmour Markle passed away Feb. 21 in New Westminster, B.C. He was 81.

In 1951 Markle volunteered to "keep the Alumni Office open" while his father, Alumni Association secretary John Markle, recovered from a heart attack. The elder Markle never made it back to the office, and his son ended up shaping and guiding the university's alumni relations for 30 years.

When he stepped in to fill his dad's shoes, Alexander Markle brought with him a BA '48 from the U of A and a bachelor's degree in journalism (1949) from Carleton University. And, like many of the university graduates of his day, he also brought experience beyond his years gained on the battlefields of the Second World War. Following his retirement from the university in 1981, Markle wrote two books based on his wartime experience. The most recent, *Dear Roses*, was based on letters he wrote to his wife while he was a prisoner of war.

A fighter pilot, he was twice shot down in the North African campaign. In August 1942 he was shot down while dive-bombing enemy troops at El Alamein. He crashed behind enemy lines but was picked up by two British armoured cars.

In November 1942 he was again shot down. This time he was not as lucky. Captured by Italian soldiers, he spent 10 months in Italian prison camps before taking part in the largest mass prisoner-of-war escape in history. He spent seven months hiding from German troops before finally making it safely across the Italian Alps to the safety of the Allied lines.

After his retirement, Markle moved to Vancouver Island. Following the death of his wife Rose in 1995, he moved to Canmore. He is survived by a daughter and son in Edmonton, a son in Calgary, and four grandchildren. ■



# The age of apology

*They may be just words to some, but to others saying 'I'm sorry' in public is more than a hollow gesture. Why?*

By Gilbert A. Bouchard

For U of A alumna Teresa Spinelli, receiving a public letter of apology from the employee who had stolen from the family's business was key.

"She stole more than just money," says Spinelli (BA '83) of the woman who recently pleaded guilty to pilfering thousands of dollars from the Italian Centre Supermarket. "It was a violation of trust, breaking a bond. She worked for us for 15 years; we knew her whole family and her brother worked for us as well. The decision to press charges was very hard, but she just walked away that day [after being caught pocketing cash transactions]."

A firestorm of innuendo swept through the tight-knit Edmonton Italian community. Given that Spinelli's store serves as an important commercial hub, this suspicion took a severe toll on both business and family.

"There were all these crazy rumours—for example, that my brother had actually stolen the money and just blamed her for it—rumours that tarnished my father's good name and rumours that cost us customers."

Those public rumours and the real personal grief played a major role in the decision to add a public letter of apology to the deal the prosecutor arranged in exchange for a voluntary guilty plea.

This action, a demand for public recognition of personal responsibility, is growing increasingly common. In the past few years a great flurry of public apologies and demands for reconciliation have dominated public discourse.

Recently the provincial government has apologized for forced sterilizations performed on people in the past, the Anglican Church and the federal government apologized for aboriginal residential schools, and Pope John Paul II apologized for a wide range of crimes "committed in the service of truth" by the Catholic Church.

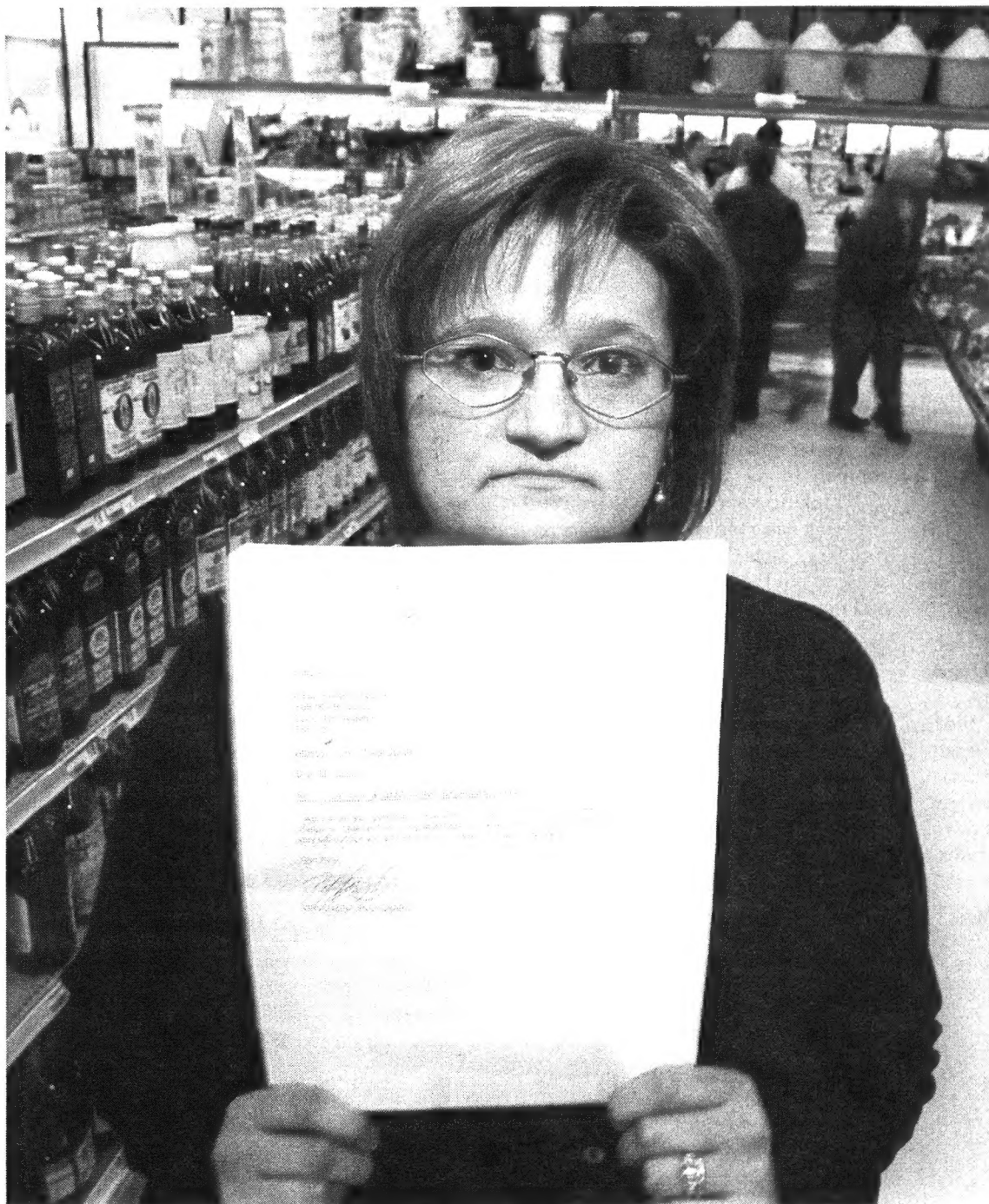
Call it the "Age of Apology," if you will.

Not that this is necessarily a bad thing. Dr. David Kahane, an assistant professor in the University of Alberta's Department of Philosophy, sees public apologies as an off-shoot of identity politics and a vital milestone on the road to broad-based social justice.

"For the past five, 10, 15 years, we arrived at the recognition that great harm is perpetuated by groups against other groups," explains Kahane. "Neither the harm nor the responsibility for those actions can be neatly pinned on to individuals. Not that individual responsibility can be totally set aside, but if you reduce it to individual guilt, you won't have a grip on what is happening in society."

Kahane says citizens of European ancestry living in Canada might be tempted to say they personally are not racist, have done no harm to persons of the First Nations and don't want governments to apologize on their behalf. "But to be European in Canada means you live on stolen land, and even if you don't want to claim it, you do enjoy the benefits of being white," he says.

Public apologies mean moving beyond the narrow individual sense of guilt and innocence.



U of A alumna Teresa Spinelli with her letter of apology from the convicted employee: "She stole more than just money."

"We have to come to terms with historical injustice: the legacy of racism against the peoples of First Nations, racism against blacks in the U.S., the legacy of apartheid in South Africa, the legacy of sexism. It means recognizing those broad patterns of responsibility and seeing how you as a white person may be implicated."

"Another response is to say that I'm being popularly represented—at best public apologies provoke that dialogue," says Kahane.

Of course, it can't just be dialogue. Apologies without reparations are just as meaningless as apologies without apologies, says Dr. Elizabeth Spelman.

The professor of philosophy and women's studies at Smith College in Northampton, Mass., is one of the key speakers at the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities 2000, hosted at the U of A next month (See story page 2). For the former Second World War "comfort women" in the Philippines, Japanese reparations without a proper apology was a "hollow gesture," says Spelman.

"One of the things I'll be talking about at the congress in Alberta is how to affect

repair between nations," says the author of *Fruits of Sorrow: Re-framing Our Attention to Suffering*. "The apologizer needs to recognize that he or she has broken some implicit rule and harmed the other person, done damage. If the apology is sincere, he or she will then seek to repair the rule, to try to help deal with whatever damage has been done, and to make amends...It's a question of who gets fixed, what gets fixed, and what doesn't."

Dr. Cressida Heyes, assistant professor, U of A Department of Philosophy, says political philosophers have great difficulty in presenting a unified theory on the issue of social responsibility. There exists a tension, says Heyes, between the responsibilities of individuals and the larger, interconnected society. This tension encourages and discourages people from taking moral and practical responsibility for their actions.

A case in point is the temptation to place all the blame on arrested sex offenders for violence against women. "We won't take ownership as a group, but make a few scapegoats [sex offenders] hyper-visible; these few men are evil rapists. We hivel them off for people—they are guilty, we're not. But it's not that simple. It's a much more subtle thing."

In effect our sense of ourselves as being good people, "moral super-agents" in

Heyes terms, flies in the face of the reality of our moral inadequacies, both as individuals and as a society. The public apology, says Heyes, becomes a way for people in position of authority to "take the lead and accept responsibility" for harm done in the past and to allow for reconciliation and repair.

The key to starting the process is the public acceptance of responsibility. But that's easier said than done. Defining responsibility isn't always so cut and dried, and in some areas of society—like the workplace—issues surrounding the idea of individual and group responsibility and loyalty are hot buttons.

In Spinelli's case, the damage done by the larcenous employee was magnified by the fact her other employees could probably have ferreted out the theft sooner. She believes they didn't exhibit much in the way of company loyalty and didn't want to accept individual responsibility for the overall well-being of the business.

Dr. Graham Lowe, director of the Work Network with the Canadian Policy Research Network, sees this lack of employee loyalty as part of a larger shift in workplace responsibilities that began in the 1980s and intensified in the 1990s. He's the author of the recently published book, *The Quality of Work, a People-Centred Agenda*.

"It was a very clear message: corporations and governments were telling people that they had to take more responsibilities for their working lives, economic well-being, training skills—in

effect, provide their own parachute," says Lowe. "And workers took this message to heart."

Lowe says employers have woken up to the importance of recreating conditions of loyalty and commitment in the workplace and the responsibilities that come with it. "Employers need to look at that whole package to address issues of recruitment and retention and they need to acknowledge that they have to take more responsibility."

In the end, concludes Kahane, the discourse around responsibility and public apology must acknowledge the importance of social treatment as well. And social justice for marginal groups, says Kahane, is not just an issue of resources.

"To invite marginalized groups to become full citizens among dominant groups within the role of marginalization is a hollow gesture. We need to make space in our culture for differences, make space for all kinds of different stories while making space for common bonds."

"Public apologies can help forge those common bonds of citizenship." ■

*The colloquium Law, Culture and Society takes place May 27 and 28 as part of the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities, May 24 to May 31.*

View ([www.hssc.ca/Cong/CongressInfoEng.html](http://www.hssc.ca/Cong/CongressInfoEng.html)) for more details.



# No-fault insurance claimants recover faster from whiplash injuries—study

By Geoff McMaster

People who suffer whiplash in traffic accidents recover twice as fast when they can't sue for pain and suffering.

That's the conclusion of a study led by the University of Alberta's Dr. David Cassidy, professor of health sciences. It's the first study to investigate the role of insurance compensation in the recovery of people injured in traffic accidents.

The study, conducted in Saskatchewan and released April 19 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, looked at all adult traffic-injury claims in the province over an 18-month period—the last six months of a 'tort' system and the first year of a new no-fault system, under which claimants cannot sue for pain and suffering.

Of the 9,006 claims made, 7,462 or 83 per cent were for whiplash.

The study found claimants who hired a lawyer under the tort system took 250 days longer to recover from whiplash than those without a lawyer. Under the no-fault period, claimants took 100 days longer to recover.

The study also found the number of claims decreased by 28 per cent during the no-fault period.

Cassidy says since claimants under no-fault insurance cannot sue for pain and



Dr. David Cassidy

suffering—and are therefore not required to document injuries—they focus on getting better rather than on litigation and compensation.

"Linking compensation to pain and suffering has a big negative impact on recovery," says Cassidy. "It makes more sense to put these people into treatment and not make them prove their injuries."

Only Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec currently operate under a pure no-fault system.

Rheumatologist Dr. Tony Russell, who has done extensive research on traffic injuries, welcomes the study, pointing out whiplash is "a major epidemic in North America."

In Western Canada, more than 70 per cent of traffic-injury claims are for whiplash injury.

Russell says the study clearly indicates Alberta should also make the change to no-fault insurance.

"[Whiplash victims] are people who are sick, and this change in the legal system has actually made them better...in half the time," he says. "These are people the state has actually cured; that's an amazing fact."

## Related links:

- New England Journal of Medicine: [www.nejm.org/content/2000/0342/0016/1179.asp](http://www.nejm.org/content/2000/0342/0016/1179.asp)
- Department of Health Sciences: [www.med.ualberta.ca/PHS/](http://www.med.ualberta.ca/PHS/)
- Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research: [www.med.ualberta.ca/acicr/pages/index.htm](http://www.med.ualberta.ca/acicr/pages/index.htm)

# Commonly used antibiotic can strengthen damaged hearts

By Phoebe Dey

An antibiotic normally used to fight bacterial bugs such as acne, urinary tract infection and gonorrhea may also be used to reduce the damage caused by heart attacks, according to a U of A discovery.

The research team, led by Dr. Rick Schulz in pharmacology, found tetracycline inhibits the action of enzymes that damage heart tissue within seconds of a heart attack.

The enzymes, called metalloproteinases (MMPs), eat away at necessary cell proteins when released by heart cells during a heart attack.

The more the heart is damaged, the greater the release of MMPs, says Schulz.

"We used drugs to inhibit those MMPs and found the heart healed and reacted better."

Schulz, who receives funding from the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, compares the findings to having a Bobcat in your garage to use for major yard work.

The MMPs are the Bobcat and the garage represents heart cells, he says. When the Bobcat is used, you open the garage door, start the engine, and carefully drive outside to do the work, making sure you don't crash the Bobcat into anything else, which is how MMPs normally work outside the cell.

But during a heart attack, "It's like someone has turned on the Bobcat even before the garage door has been opened, and then this crazy driver starts to run amok in your garage, making a terrible mess. This may be what is happening to some of the heart cells during a heart attack."

The drugs help by "turning off the Bobcat's motor and stealing the key so that it cannot be turned on again," said Schulz.

The team's findings suggest an alternative to the theory that bacterial infections may cause heart disease, since the new results show tetracycline does not fight infections but inhibits the MMPs instead.

Using an experimental model of a heart attack performed on rats, the team found MMPs restrict the heart from contracting with its normal force. That restriction means oxygen and nutrients cannot be delivered as efficiently.

"Now we need to see if this phenomenon happens in humans."

The research is published in the current issue of *Circulation*, *The Journal of the American Heart Association*.

Other U of A collaborators are Dr. Po-Yin Cheung, Dr. Greg Sawicki, Dr. Marek Radomski and Wenjie Wang. Dr. Mieczyslaw Wozniak, at the Medical University in Poland, also contributed to the study.



Dean Ian Morrison, Minister Ty Lund and President Rod Fraser toured the Edmonton Research Station (University Farm) recently and helped out with some munchies.

# A \$2 M provincial advance for livestock and environmental research projects

By Ryan Smith

The University of Alberta's Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics is more than \$2 million to the good thanks to a grant from the provincial government that will be put toward three projects.

One million will go toward the development of a \$2.5 million livestock-research feed centre. Doug Milligan, head of the Pork, Poultry, and Horse Branch at the Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development department, said he hopes the money will act as "seed money" to induce private corporations to contribute the \$1.5 million needed to complete the centre.

"This research is so important," Milligan said, "because Alberta has the largest livestock sector in Canada, and it's

on such a scale that even a one per cent increase in production is worth millions of dollars.

"The idea is that researchers from this centre will search the world for the best technology available to help livestock-feed research, and then use what they find to develop more efficient use of crops and reduce environmental damage," he added.

Another \$900,000 of the grant will pay for a new chair at the U of A, who will study environmentally sustainable agriculture. "This is a fine example of the relationship between the University of Alberta, Alberta Agriculture and Alberta Research Council in addressing issues of concern to Albertans," said Dean Ian Morrison.

The expansion of facilities at the Environmental and Metabolism Research Centre is the third project the provincial grant will support. Dr. Bob Christopherson, agriculture, food and nutritional sciences professor, said the \$130,600 from the province will be combined with money gained through Intellectual Infrastructure Partnership Program to build a wing at the centre that will house cattle individually or in groups of six.

Christopherson said the centre's researchers will study the effect environmental pollutants and varying temperatures have on the cattle's metabolism. It's critical research, he said, "to find the best way to feed [the cattle] efficiently, minimize labour costs and provide the animals with the best environment for growth."

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# To sue or not to sue

## The bigger debate in the compensation and whiplash-claims study

By Lewis Klar, dean, Faculty of Law

The recent study by Dr. David Cassidy regarding the effect of compensation systems on the incidence and prognosis of whiplash claims has garnered considerable interest (See 'No fault' page 4). The study shows that under a system of tort law, whereby accident victims are fully compensated by the person who wrongfully injured them for the pain and suffering caused by their injuries, there are more whiplash claims and recovery from pain is slower than under no-fault systems. In no-fault systems, where victims have no right of recovery for pain and suffering caused by their whiplash injuries, there are fewer whiplash-injury claims and recovery from pain occurs more quickly.

While the study is of interest, it is important to see it within the context of a larger tort and no-fault debate and to identify two separate issues.

The first issue: Should victims of accidents be entitled to receive compensation for the pain and suffering which they experience as a result of their whiplash injuries? Should the answer to this depend on whether they were injured as a result of the wrongdoing of others, through their own fault or through no one's fault?

The second issue: In general, how should all victims of automobile accidents be compensated? Should Alberta reject tort law—which compensates persons based on fault and provides victims access to the civil justice system—and move to a no-fault system as other provinces, such as Quebec and Manitoba, have done?

The study, at least superficially, dealt only with the more restricted first issue. The study concluded any system which provides compensation for pain and suffering experienced by victims of whiplash injuries has a negative effect on the recovery and rehabilitation of these victims. Apparently, the expectation of compensation and the need to highlight or prove

one's pain impedes recovery, at least until the compensation issue has been resolved. The study does not deny people do suffer real pain from whiplash injuries. It does recommend they not be compensated for it. This conclusion that there should be no compensation for the pain experienced by whiplash victims applies to all compensation schemes, whether based on fault or no fault.

Whether the whiplash injury and the consequent pain and suffering have been caused by the wrongful behaviour of another person—for example, a car accident caused by a drunk driver—does not affect the authors' conclusion.

Principles of justice which traditionally have required wrongdoers to compensate victims for the losses which they brought about and to accept personal responsibility for the consequences of their behaviour take a back seat to the study's conclusion that compensation only makes things worse for the victim. Put simply, the study concludes victims should simply put up with their pain with no expectation of compensation.

In this respect, the study was very "clinical." The authors' conclusion that legislators remove payments for pain and suffering from compensation systems was made without any reference to issues of justice, fair compensation or appeasement of victims injured by the wrongdoing of others. Issues of justice or other values and goals associated with compensating victims are not discussed in the study.

The study was not, at least on the surface, about whether car-accident victims in

general should be compensated by tort law or no-fault schemes. The conclusion was simply no system should compensate for pain and suffering from whiplash injuries. Thus technically the second broader issue as to whether tort should be removed by no fault for all automobile accident victims was not part of the study or its conclusion.

The question as to whether tort law should be removed and replaced by no-fault compensation has been debated for at least 50 years. Some provinces have complete no-fault insurance schemes for all automobile-accident victims, and all provinces have no-fault workers' compensation schemes for workplace injuries. These schemes generally remove or seriously restrict accident victims' right to sue.

Those who favour tort argue it promotes values of justice for victims wrongfully injured by others, full compensation and personal accountability. No-fault schemes ignore issues of wrongdoing but concentrate instead on the compensation and rehabilitation of accident victims without regard to fault. Most jurisdictions do not rely solely on one type of accident-compensation scheme but use a mix of systems.

While tort is retained for auto-accident victims in Alberta, there are also no-fault insurance benefits available to accident victims, as well as medical care, private insurance and employee-disability schemes.

While the Cassidy study did not delve into this broader issue of tort or no fault, it must be recognized this debate lies very close to the surface of the whiplash/pain

and suffering issue. Tort law does provide compensation for the pain and suffering experienced by victims of wrongdoing since a basic principle of tort is victims of wrongdoing are entitled to be fully compensated for their injuries, insofar as it is possible to do so by the awarding of damages. In addition, the compensation must come from the wrongdoer or from insurance paid for by the wrongdoer. It is believed requiring wrongdoers to compensate their victims is a matter of elementary justice.

Cassidy's conclusion that pain and suffering claims caused by whiplash injuries should be eliminated from tort seriously undermines one of the basic tenets of tort—those injured by the fault of others should be compensated for their injuries and losses including intangible ones. It would also be a significant step on the road to eliminating tort altogether. Without the expectation of recovering damages for non-pecuniary losses, such as pain and suffering, many smaller automobile-accident claims would simply be eliminated from the civil justice system altogether.

Although tort law does believe in "full" compensation, this does not mean there are no limits to tort recovery. There is currently a limit on the amount of recovery one can receive for pain and suffering awards, a limit set by the courts. As well, principles such as reasonableness, moderation and fairness are important in the assessment of damages.

No-fault systems invariably do not provide accident victims with any compensation for pain and suffering. This is not as much an ideological position as an economic one. Since no-fault systems compensate all accident victims equally without regard to whether they caused the accident or were the innocent victims of it, compensation must of necessity be limited. If no-fault schemes attempted to compensate all accident victims at the same levels as does tort, they would clearly not be affordable.

As someone who has studied accident-compensation schemes and tort for many years, I believe society needs to retain a civil justice system for victims of fault. Individual rights must be part of any compensation system. Law is not only about efficiency or recovery times for whiplash-injury victims but also about values.

The responsibility of negligent drivers to compensate their victims is important. Those injured by the careless or deliberate acts of others have a right to be fully restored. Victims of whiplash injuries do suffer real pain. Although an award of damages cannot relieve the pain or may in fact, as the study suggests, prolong it until compensation is obtained. It can provide a source of funds from which injury victims can draw to provide them with sources of pleasure. It can also remind wrongdoers their actions do have consequences and assure victims their injuries are of importance to a society based on justice.

The question ultimately comes down to a question of individual judgment. If you were a victim of an automobile accident caused by the negligence of another, and you were experiencing serious pain and suffering, would you expect compensation for it or be willing to forgo any prospect of compensation?

What would your choice be? ■

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## folio letters to the editor

# A plea for an access re-design in the Heritage building

As one of the "residents" of the Heritage Medical Research Centre (HMRC, a building noted for its functionality more than its beauty), we have to contend with the lack of green space, trees and quiet which grace many parts of this wonderful university campus. We are no doubt some victims of our own success, as funding to medical research has expanded and we are always recruiting new researchers to the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. Thus the arrival of the recently opened NANUC, which grew out of a great gouge taken from the south side of our building more than a year ago. This unfortunately took away a nice large piece of green lawn, a

number of mature trees, and importantly a wheelchair access/walkway directly from the parking lot to the east (at the corner of 112 Street and 87 Avenue) to our building.

Now that the construction is finished, it is more and more obvious the residents of HMRC have been not adequately considered in the plans for NANUC. The remaining walkway points southwestwards towards the east hospital entrance, and a snow fence protects a small grassy slope for those who want to continue to the south entrance of HMRC. The excessive new pavement in front of NANUC is at an awkward slope, so that persons approaching HMRC from the east parking lot have ample opportunity to slip on ice and snow, especially during our lovely winters.

And of course scientists need good coffee. The Second Cup across the street beckons, and this requires a circumventive journey around NANUC. Although some may

know that a high energy nuclear magnetic resonance magnet is housed in NANUC, we still cannot figure out the acronym and suggest that it stands for: Not so good Access to Nearby University Cafe.

So for the residents of HMRC, my suggestion is a walkway/stairway/wheelchair access be re-designed for better access to and from the east of our fair building. Perhaps some of the broad new asphalt can be used to partially replace that green which was previously lost in order to reconstruct a proper and much-used, ready access-way to our building.

And let NANUC live up to its real name.

Sincerely yours,  
Rick Schulz  
Associate Professor  
Departments of Pediatrics and  
Pharmacology

The next edition of Folio is May 12.

Letters can be forwarded to the Editor at [lucianna.ciccocioppo@ualberta.ca](mailto:lucianna.ciccocioppo@ualberta.ca) by May 5.



# notices

Please send notices attention Folio 400 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, T6G 2E8 or e-mail [public.affairs@ualberta.ca](mailto:public.affairs@ualberta.ca). Notices should be received by 3 p.m. one week prior to publication.

## ORIENTATION SESSION

### SUPPLY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Supply Management Services Department will be conducting orientation sessions for all of our client departments on campus. Please join us for a one-hour tour and information session in our newly renovated facility. Take this opportunity to explore our many services that are offered to assist your department in your daily operation. If you have any concerns or suggestions on ways we can serve you better, please bring them along. The sessions will be held in the Materials Management Building. The tour will begin with an information session in the third floor (new) conference room and will be followed with a tour of the facility. Please register in one of the following sessions:

Tuesday, May 16, 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. or Wednesday, May 17, 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. If you are interested

in attending one of these sessions, please call Colette at 492-5438 or e-mail [colette.sych@ualberta.ca](mailto:colette.sych@ualberta.ca)

## RECEPTION FOR DEAN ART QUINNEY

The Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation is pleased to host a reception to recognize, honour and thank Dr. Art Quinney, dean from July 1991 to June 2000. The wine and cheese reception will take place Tuesday, May 23, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., in the Stollery Executive Development Centre, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Faculty of Business Building. A short program begins at 4:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Rebecca Cahoon by May 16.

## RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR DR. STILES

The Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science invites you to celebrate the retirement of Dr. Michael E. Stiles as Professor, Food Microbiology. The reception will be held Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Saskatchewan Room of the Faculty Club (11435 Saskatchewan Drive). A brief program will

begin at 4 p.m. Call Francine Hodder at 492-7101 for further information.

## WELLNESS SERVICE PROVIDERS FAIR

All staff are invited to attend the second annual Wellness Service Providers Fair May 3. Highlights of the fair include displays, demonstrations and a series of short talks on wellness topics, such as stress management and workplace recognition. Representatives from some of the more than 50 campus wellness providers will be on hand to answer questions and share information about their services. The fair will run from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the main floor of the Students' Union Building. For more information, visit the Workplace Wellness Web site at [www.ualberta.ca/~hrgroup/ww](http://www.ualberta.ca/~hrgroup/ww) or contact Heather Nicholson at 492-7125 or [heather.nicholson@hrs.ualberta.ca](mailto:heather.nicholson@hrs.ualberta.ca).

## FREE HEALTH TALKS

The University Hospital Foundation is presenting a series of free health talks at University Hospital, Bernard Snell Hall,

W.C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre. The first one looks at the future of diabetes treatment, Tuesday, May 9, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

More than one in 20 Canadians suffer from diabetes—how close are we to a better treatment? Find out from a team of Canada's leading experts. U of A professors Drs. John Elliott, Gregory Korbitt, Ray Rajotte and James Shapiro will talk about current and future treatments for diabetes. A question and answer period will follow.

Next, delve into the world of genetic research with the experts as they unravel the mysteries of gene discovery. Genetics research holds the promise of a potential cure for diseases such as Huntington's and diabetes. U of A professors Drs. Susan Andrew, Diane Cox and Norma Leonard will lecture and answer your questions on Tuesday, May 23, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Advance tickets are required for both lectures and are available from the University Hospital, 114 Street (west entrance) information desk. For further information, call 407-1644 or 407-8408.

## GRANT PROGRAMS

ICORE's grant programs are building world-class research teams in Alberta in information and communications technology.

### Establishment Grants

Chair and Professorship Establishment (CPE) Grants are available to create positions for chairs or professors with excellent research records in information and communications technology. The grants cover the salary of the team leader brought to Alberta along with the salaries of associated research team members including other professors, research fellows, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. They may also cover research operating and equipment costs. The requested funding may range from \$200,000 to over \$1,000,000 per year for periods from two to five years.

### Research Grants

Research Grants are similar to the establishment grants described above, but are intended to help outstanding researchers currently in Alberta build world-class research teams. Research Grants do not cover the salary of the Alberta team leader, but do cover the salaries of recruited associated research team members including professors, research fellows, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. They may also cover research operating and equipment costs. The requested funding may range from \$50,000 to \$500,000 per year for periods of one to five years. Total awards will normally be a minimum of \$200,000.

## EXTREME COMPUTING

In support of these central initiatives, iCORE operates two additional grant programs.

### Graduate Student Fellowships

Funding is available to support new Alberta graduate students in computer science, electrical and computer engineering, and other ICT-related areas, who hold NSERC Post Graduate Scholarships. Specifically, for recipients of NSERC PGS-A scholarships, an additional \$12,000 per year is granted by iCORE. Those who hold a PGS-B scholarship receive an additional iCORE award of \$15,000 per year. This program is currently operating for the 2000-01 academic year.

### Recruiting Grants

Grants averaging \$10,000 each are available to support faculty members at Alberta universities plan, develop and recruit research teams. These grants, called ICT Strategy, Planning and Recruiting (ISPR) Grants, can be used to cover the costs of travel and accommodation involved in recruiting-related activities.



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**Farewell**  
to the  
**Chancellor**



University of Alberta staff, students and alumni are invited to a special farewell to thank the

*Honourable Lois E Hole, CM  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta  
Chancellor, University of Alberta  
for her wonderful contributions as  
Chancellor of the University  
of Alberta.*

**Wednesday, May 10  
2:00 - 4:00 pm  
Coffee Party in Quad**

*In case of inclement weather, the Farewell will be held in the ButteDome*

# events

## FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND THE CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND FAMILY ENTERPRISE

May 5, 2000: 9:30 am coffee;  
10:00 am presentation

Are pleased to invite you to attend a presentation addressing future of family business in Canada by Mr. Gordon Pitts, an editor and writer for the Globe and Mail's Report on Business. Room 4-06, Faculty of Business Building, University of Alberta. Please RSVP "yes" only by May 3, 2000 to Lynne Bigam, Associate Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Family Enterprise at (780) 492-5876.

## FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

The Friends present: Spring Market Place in the UAH atrium level.

Phase I: May 8 and 9, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Phase II: May 11 and 12, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Different vendors selling everything from fine pieces of art to comfortable clogs, clothing for tots and adults, craft items and much, much more! Proceeds enhance patient care and comfort at the UAH. Information: 407-8428.

## SUPPORT STAFF ORIENTATION

May 15, 11:30 am - 4:00 pm

Individual & Organizational Effectiveness invite support staff members to attend an orientation session, in the Banquet Room, Lister Hall. Includes tour with a lunch to follow. Information: Shantel MacKenzie at 492-4350 or shantel.mackenzie@ualberta.ca

## CONFERENCE

### CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

June 8 - 10, 2000

The Faculty of Pharmacy would like to announce the CSPS conference, "Technology Transfer: From Bench to Market," happening in Vancouver, BC. Please check the conference Web site for details at: www.pharmacy.ualberta.ca/CSPSConferenceSite/

### CANADIAN INDIGENOUS/NATIVE STUDIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 28 - 31, 2000

Hosted by the School of Native Studies at the University of Alberta. Please contact Program Chair/Local Coordinator, Wendy Aasen, at 492-2991 for information.

## INTERNATIONAL NORTHWESTERN CONFERENCE ON DISEASES IN NATURE COMMUNICABLE TO MEN (INCNDNM)

July 30 - August 2, 2000

The 55th annual INCNDNM takes place at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. Program scope: viral, Rickettsial, bacterial, parasitic or prion-related diseases acquired from natural sources, including animals (wild or domestic), contaminated water or food supplies, arthropod vectors, etc. For more information: Errol Prasad, Clinical Virologist, phone 407-8975 or e-mail esp@bugs.uah.ualberta.ca.

## EXHIBITION

### EXTENSION GALLERY

April 26 to May 17

Mary Lee Small - Fine Visual Presentation for the Certificate of Fine Arts in Painting. Artist in attendance April 29, 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Gallery hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 8:00 pm; Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Saturday, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. Second floor, University Extension Centre, 8303 - 112 Street. Info: 492-3034.

## GENERAL LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

### BANFF CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT

May 7 - 13

"Team Leadership and Facilitation."

September 10 - 15, 2000

"Enhancing Personal and Professional Effectiveness."

September 12 - 22

"Management Excellence."

Info: Phone 1-800-590-9799 or Web site: www.banffmanagement.com

## MUSIC

### DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

May 14, 8:00 pm

Faculty recital: Scott Whetham, tuba, "Music for Tuba." Program includes works by Vinter, Hindemith, Forsyth, Whetham (chamber ensemble). Admission: \$5/student/senior, \$10/adult. Convocation Hall, Arts Building.

University of Alberta  
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for Professional Development



University of Alberta  
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## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Opening in June 2000, the TELUS Centre for Professional Development is a world class executive and professional development facility that showcases enhanced learning through the application of leading edge, innovative technology. As a high-tech venue and an integral part of the University of Alberta, the Centre will serve as a hub for a national and international network of partners and clients seeking excellence in research, development and delivery of customized professional education programs, to be offered at the Centre and around the world.

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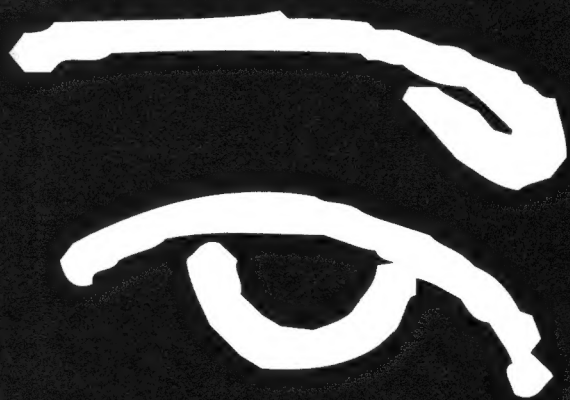


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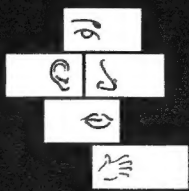


# Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities

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Join fellow thinkers from the University of Alberta and from across Canada for a diverse range of discussions, performances and presentations in the Festival of Ideas. Look out for book launches, live theatre, book discussion groups, philosophers' and language cafés, poetry readings, and special lectures on business, economics, politics and culture.

Visit the Festival of Ideas Web site at: [www.ualberta.ca/ideafestival](http://www.ualberta.ca/ideafestival)

## Attend a colloquium on a current topic:

### Women in the Academy: Global Warming and the Chilly Climate May 26

What challenges do women in the academy face as students, professors, administrators and researchers?

### The Future of Graduate Students in the Arts May 26, 27

Why pursue an arts degree? What do future employment and funding look like?

### The North May 27, 28

How does cultural identity fit in with the emerging governance, and educational and economic development, of the North?

### Law, Culture and Society May 27, 28

How should societies deal with redress, retribution and reconciliation for past injustices and atrocities?

### Human Rights and the Law May 28, 29

What does Canada's record look like over history to the end of the 20th century?

### Globalization, Societies and Cultures May 29, 30

Is the globalization paradigm inevitable or do alternatives exist?

# positions

*The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP).*

*The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons.*

## HEALTH ECONOMIST HEALTH POLICY & MANAGEMENT

The Department of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta, is offering a full-time, soft-tenure position in health economics. The position may be at the assistant, associate or full professor level; rank and salary to be commensurate with experience. A comprehensive benefits package is included.

The University of Alberta has initiated a program to build expertise and excellence in health economics and health services research. The program will be developed in cooperation with programs in epidemiology and health policy and management, as well as with the cooperation of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Institute of Health Economics.

Applicants must have a PhD in health economics or equivalent, a strong commitment to multi-disciplinary work, a well-developed program of research in health economics that is competitive for research funding, and an eagerness to engage in teaching and the supervision of master's and PhD students. The Department of Public Health Sciences offers MPH (course-based) and MPH (thesis-based) degree programs, an M.Sc. (occupational health), and both an M.Sc. and PhD medical sciences (public health sciences) in the areas of environmental health sciences, epidemiology, and population health. The Department offers a postgraduate medical education program in occupational medicine accredited by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and has a developing program in health informatics. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents. If suitable Canadian citizens and permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered.

Deadline for applications is May 31, 2000. Curriculum vitae citing three references should be sent to: Dr. T.W. Noseworthy, Chair, Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Alberta, 13-103 Clinical Sciences Building, Edmonton, AB T6G 2G3

## LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS MANAGER UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY

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- operates a number of SUN and NT database servers providing Internet access to a range of electronic information services (Silver Platter Electronic Reference Library, OVID, numerical data sets), as well as Web and related applications services;
- manages the library's Web development, including innovative strategies for database-driven content management, Web programming for library search interfaces, new directions in user authentication and personalized information services, and programming support for digital library initiatives;
- provides development and operations support as host site for high speed digital document delivery and resource sharing through the Alberta Relais Consortium;
- takes a leading role in the University Library's participation in provincial initiatives under The Alberta Library related to resource sharing, consortium licensing, collaborative Web content management and interface development, and in collaborative technology projects under the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries.

Under the portfolio of the associate director, information technology resources and services, you will oversee the implementation, day-to-day operations and continued development of the library's network-based information services, and the direction of ITS's first-class customer service team. You will be a key player in shaping the role of the University of Alberta in The Alberta Library ([www.library.ualberta.ca/altalib/](http://www.library.ualberta.ca/altalib/)).

The ideal candidate is an effective project manager, with an ability to build and coach cohesive work teams. You are able to track progress on a wide range of technology/service initiatives, adjusting priorities as required, within the framework of the strategic vision. You are a strong communicator, with an understanding not only of technology directions, but of the policy issues in a collaborative environment, and with skills in maintaining relationships with other IT

# ads

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GREENFIELD EXECUTIVE – two storey, five bedrooms with 2,980 sq ft. furnished. One year lease August 1, 2000 – July 31, 2001. Quiet, secluded location near schools and shopping. \$2,000/month. Call Janet Fraser, Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. R.E., 441-6441.

RIVERBEND, RHATIGAN ROAD WEST – warm inviting two storey. Three large bedrooms, sunny kitchen with family room. Hardwood floors, \$1,650/month. June 1, 2000. Janet Jenner-Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates, 441-6441.

MILLCREEK – elegant period, two storey, fully furnished. May 1, 2-3 months. Janet Jenner-Fraser, Gordon W.R. King and Associates, 441-6441.

MILLCREEK GEM – charming four bedroom, two storey, fully furnished. May 1 – June 30, \$1,200/month. Janet Fraser, Gordon W.R. King & Associates R.E., 441-6441.

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WALK TO CAMPUS – executive four-bedroom house, fully furnished, seven appliances. Heated garage. Non-smokers, no pets. Available July 1, \$1,800 per month plus utilities. Call 430-7051.

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Karen Adams, Director of Library and Information Resources, Cameron Library, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J8, Fax: (780) 492-8302, Email: karen.adams@ualberta.ca

## PROJECT MANAGER, HEALTH IN ACTION (HIA) PROJECT ALBERTA CENTRE FOR WELL-BEING

The Health in Action Web site ([www.health-in-action.org](http://www.health-in-action.org)) contains information about health promotion and injury prevention in the province of Alberta through a database of hundreds of health promotion and injury prevention programs and research. HIA is a provincially funded project by Alberta Health and Wellness and is administered through the Alberta Centre for Well-Being of the University of Alberta. Reporting to the director of the Alberta Centre for Well-Being, the project manager will have overall responsibility for providing quality, timely guidance and support on the HIA project.

Responsibilities include: project planning with project partners; project management including developing and maintaining detailed work plans; meeting facilitation; and communication activities as identified in the work plan. The project manager will also be required to administer and manage the project budget, prepare project reports and proposals, and manage the work of project personnel and contractors.

Qualified applicants will possess: a degree in health administration, physical education, occupational health and safety, or social or health sciences; project management experience including administration; experience in health and injury prevention programs within Alberta; medium to high proficiency using the Internet and with Microsoft Office. The successful candidate should also have excellent written and oral communication and strong interpersonal and organization skills.

This is a contract opportunity for approximately 20 hours per week where the successful candidate

will work primarily from his/her own office and must have Internet and e-mail access. Remuneration is negotiable, based on qualifications and experience. A letter of application, résumé and the names of three referees should be forwarded to: Human Resources, Alberta Centre for Well-Being, Percy Page Centre, 3rd Floor, 11759 Groat Road, Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6 or email: [judith.moodie@ualberta.ca](mailto:judith.moodie@ualberta.ca) no later than May 10, 2000. All applicants are thanked for their interest; however, only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

## TESTING SPECIALIST DIVISION OF STUDIES IN MEDICAL EDUCATION FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

The Division of Studies in Medical Education (DSME), Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Alberta provides examination services to a number of national and provincial associations in the general area of human health. The division requires a testing specialist to provide consultation to the associations on the development and maintenance of their examination processes. The successful candidate should have a master's degree or preferably a PhD in educational measurement, testing, psychometrics or a related field. This position also requires outstanding interpersonal skills, energy and initiative.

The successful candidate will plan, implement, monitor and maintain comprehensive strategies for examination development, analysis and reporting, and will provide direction to examination committees on matters related to test development and research. The successful candidate will have excellent computer skills. In addition, a background in classical test theory, item response theory, test analysis, performance assessment, and computerized adaptive testing is desirable. Because this position involves liaison with different test committees, strong written and verbal communication skills and particularly interpersonal skills that foster team building are essential. The successful candidate will be expected to be an effective committee member and will have the initiative and ability to work independently in coordinating a number of different testing programs. Appropriate clerical and computational support services are available in the division.

This position will be a full-time Faculty Service Officer I position.

Interested candidates should submit a curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, together with a letter of application, by Friday, May 12, 2000 to:

Dr. E.N. Skakun, Director of Psychometrics, Division of Studies in Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, 2J3.08 Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2R7

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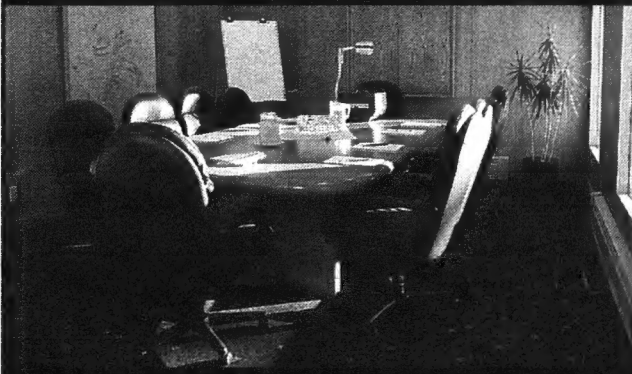
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# When did history begin?

By David DiCenzo

## An anthropology professor searches for 'the origin of everyone'—and turns a popular theory on its head

Technological advances of the last 100 years indicate human culture is developing at a furious pace. But life on earth might not always have been moving this quickly.

Dr. Pamela Willoughby, an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology, has been conducting a lengthy study that not only presents new material about the evolution of anatomically modern humans (*Homo sapiens*), but also challenges the long-standing theories of archaeology experts around the world.

A popular belief in academic circles is that approximately 30,000 years ago, a time representing the dawning of the Later Stone Age in Africa (LSA), our own species appeared, biologically and culturally.

At that time, something triggered in the human brain, according to the theory, and gave these early people the capability to produce elaborate tools and other traces of culture, like jewelry and cave drawings.

But Willoughby disagrees.

"I'm just not convinced of this. It could easily have been a more gradual

thing, since African populations before this were already biologically the same as we."

She has found archaeological samples of tools and fossils in Africa, which are older than 30,000 years, indicating humans on the continent may have had the capacity for culture and tool-making earlier than originally thought.

"Since 1987, we've had ways of dating things that are older than 40,000 years," she explains.

**All of us have a recent, common ancestor. Biologically, race doesn't mean anything. We may be studying the origin of everyone.**

— Dr. Pamela Willoughby, anthropologist

"We now know there are sites with modern human remains that are up to 200,000 years old in Africa. People of the Middle Stone Age (MSA, 200,000 to 40,000 years ago) were biologically modern humans. But was their culture also modern?"

Willoughby believes this may be the case but that hypothesis is in direct conflict with the work of Dr. Richard Klein of Stanford University, known as an authority on human evolution.

Klein is a proponent of the Out of Africa theory, which suggests the ancestors of modern humans originated in Africa and proceeded to emigrate across the globe starting about 40,000 years ago. In his book *The Human Career*, Klein argues there were indeed big changes

approximately 30,000 years ago, setting the stage for humans to develop complex cultures and then migrate out.

"He's convinced it doesn't matter that there were modern humans during the MSA in Africa, because they were not culturally modern—which is why I want to write a book," she laughs. "I'm firmly convinced the Out of Africa theory is right, but I don't believe they were stupid and clueless or had primitive or pre-cultural adaptations (prior to 30,000 years ago)."

The main focus of her field work is in southwestern Tanzania, home to many archaeological sites with artifacts and fossils from the MSA and LSA. The research is concentrated in an area of the Songwe River of the Lake Rukwa rift valley, which has a series of terraces with associated archaeological sites. Other sites are found in rockshelters, places where large boulder overhangs provided a spot for human settlement. More than 21,000 LSA artifacts were excavated from a rockshelter in a single hole that measured one metre square with a depth of 1.45 metres below the surface.

Willoughby says composite tools (small blades and geometric pieces attached to handles) appear in Africa much earlier than they do in Europe. What she and her team hope to find in Tanzania is a progression of tool development from the MSA to LSA as they dig deeper into the terraces and rockshelters.

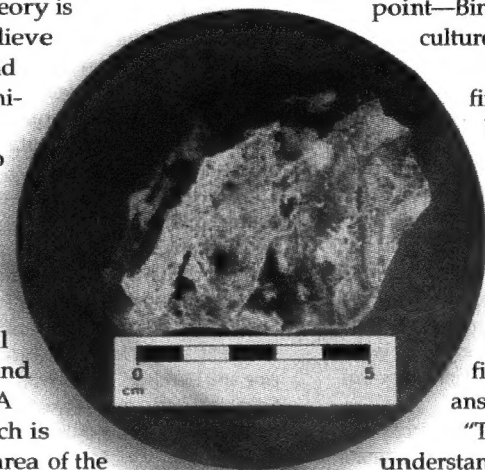
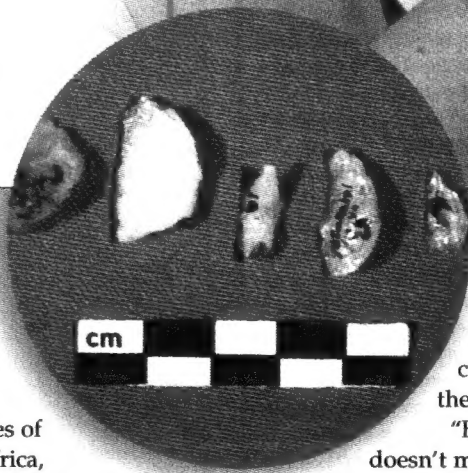
"We're still trying to find that magic site that has it all," she says. "Things are sort of changing but not radically. It seems to be a gradual process. At no point—Bingo!—did modern culture appear."

"We really want to find out what changed between the MSA and LSA."

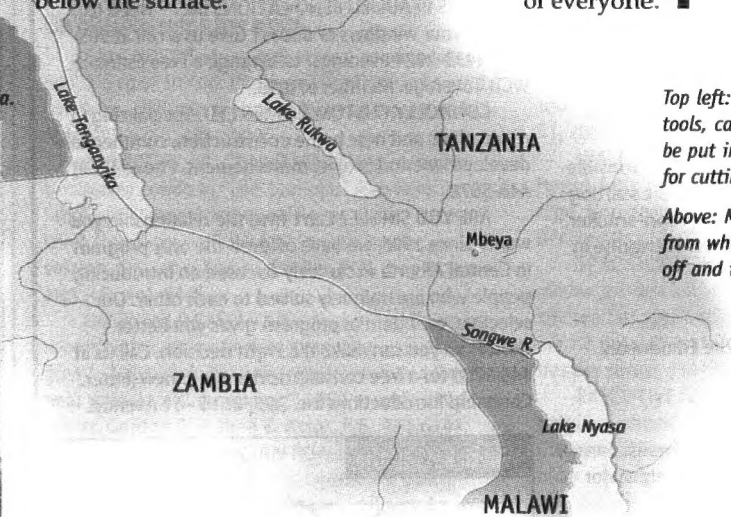
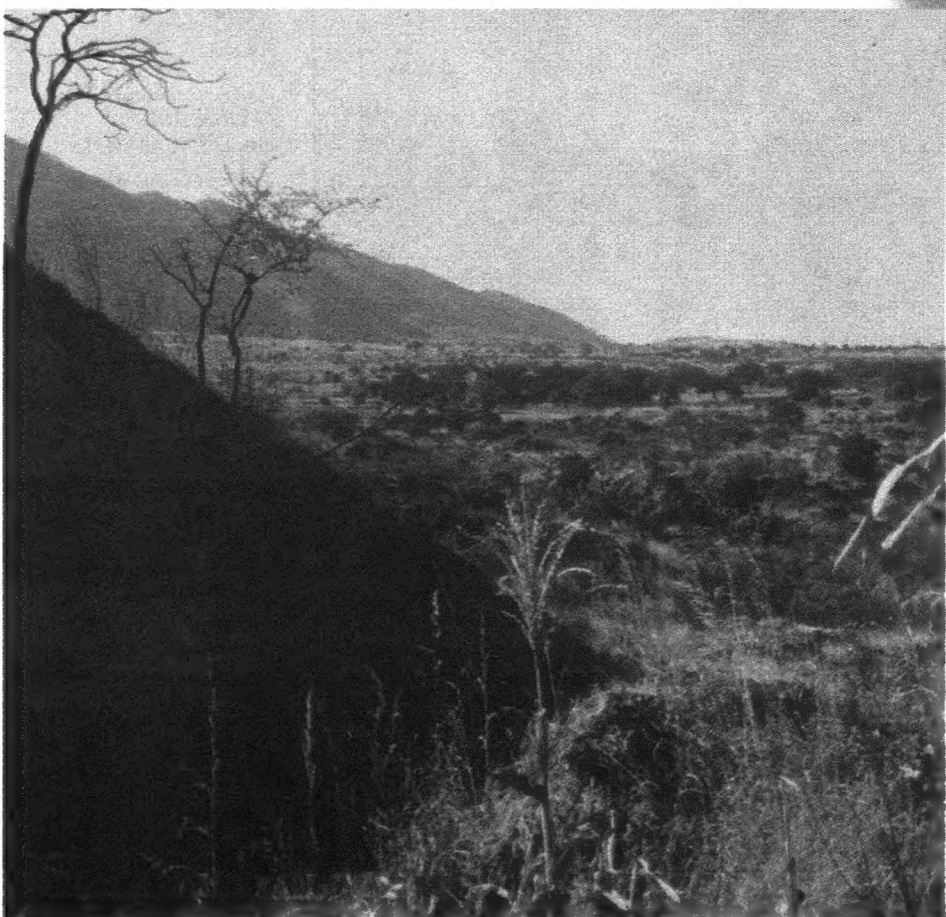
While research into the origin of humans is relatively new, Willoughby sees great importance in the work and in finding the right answers.

"The appeal of it is understanding something about our own history," she says. "It's African history, but it is also the history of the first human populations such as ourselves. The genetic data behind the Out of Africa theory is important for social reasons. All of us have a recent, common ancestor. Biologically, race doesn't mean anything."

"We may be studying the origin of everyone." ■



A Later Stone Age site: a former rockshelter at Mapogoro, northeast of Njelenje village, Mbeya Region, Tanzania.



Top left: Later Stone Age finished tools, called crescents, which would be put into a small handle to use for cutting or scraping.

Above: Middle Stone Age radial core from which flakes would be chipped off and turned into finished tools.

Anthropologist Dr. Pamela Willoughby at work.

Tina Chang

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